PROTECTION

selected for Agricultural Labour Enquiry by the Government of India. A sum of Rs. 12,000 was allotted for the purpose.

253. As a measure of assisting grow more food scheme, instructions were issued to spend a portion of grants allotted for Raral Improvements for digging pits for the preparation of compost manure. Seven thousand one hundred and forty-eight pits were dug at a cost of Rs. 14,418.

254. To suggest measures to avoid overlapping of Rural Development Work that is devolving on the Village Panchayets, Rural Development Committees and the District Boards, a Committee was constituted under the Chairmanship of Sri V. Venkatappa. The suggestion of the Committee to have a common Act for the Local Boards was engaging the attention of Government.

Amelioration of the condition of the Depressed Classes.

255. A sum of Rs. 19 lakhs was sanctioned for the scheme of amelioration of the condition of the depressed classes. A sum of Rs. 13,07,367 was spent for meeting the cost of acquisition of lands for the formation of depressed class colonies and extensions and for the payment of subven. tions to deserving people for the construction of houses. During the year, 176 cases of acquisition of lands were sanctioned and 4,069 houses were constructed in the several parts of the State with the help of Government subventions.

256. Encouragement was accorded to the Kannada weekly journal "Panchajanya" which was dedicated to the social and educational advancement of the Harijans by purchasing 2,000 copies thereof for being distributed among the village panchayets, etc.